

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 17 January 2005 (17.01.05)
original claim 7 amended ; original claims 1-6 and 8-10 cancelled.

7. An electrical connector (30) for terminating a flat electrical circuit, comprising:

an elongated dielectric housing (34) having an opening (36) for receiving an end of the flat circuit;

a plurality of terminals (38) mounted on the housing in a side-by-side array and spaced along the opening, said terminals having contact arms (38b) with contact portions (38e) projecting into said opening for engaging appropriate contacts on the flat circuit;

an elongated actuator (40) pivotally mounted on the housing for rotating movement between an open position allowing the flat circuit to be inserted into said opening and a closed position biasing the flat circuit against the terminals, the actuator having rotating bosses (58) at opposite longitudinal ends thereof and cam projections (60) on end faces of the bosses and including longitudinally outwardly projecting locking protrusions (64) at opposite ends thereof;

a pair of fitting nails (42) for fixing the connector to a printed circuit board and

said housing (34) including

an elongated rear portion (34a) into which the terminals can be mounted from the rear of the connector,

a platform portion (34b) projecting forwardly of the rear portion and combining therewith to define said opening into which the flat circuit can be inserted from the front of the connector onto the top of the platform,

a pair of end walls (34c) spaced outwardly from opposite longitudinal ends of the rear portion to define a pair of actuator-receiving slots (48) for receiving the rotating bosses of the actuator and including locking grooves (52) on the insides thereof for receiving the locking protrusions (64) when the actuator is in its closed position,

cam grooves (50) in the inside faces of the end walls for receiving the cam projections on the actuator,

a plurality of guide grooves (44) on top of the platform portion for receiving the contact arms of the terminals with a plurality of partitions (44a) between the guide grooves (44), the partitions having sloped front end surfaces for guiding the

flat circuit into said opening (36), and

said pair of end walls (34c) including nail-receiving passages (46) opening at a front of the housing for inserting the fitting nails into the passages, said nail-receiving passages (46) being in communication with said actuator-receiving slots (48), and the fitting nails (42) including actuator supporting portions (42f) extending into the slots.